

REMARKS

The present application includes claims 1-11. The Examiner objected to Applicants' disclosure for including the claims on the last page of the specification. Claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Pat. No. 3,422,929 to Oja et al. Claims 1, 5, 6, 9, and 10 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. 2,922,494 to Clark. Furthermore, the Examiner has stated that claims 2-4, 7, and 8 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims. The Applicants thank the Examiner for the notice of allowed subject matter. By this amendment, claims 1, 3, 6, and 8 have been amended, claims 2, 4, and 7 have been canceled, and new claim 11 has been added.

Applicants respectfully traverse the outstanding objections and rejections for reasons set forth hereafter.

Objections

In the November 20, 2006 Office Action, the Examiner objected to Applicants' disclosure for including the claims on the last page of the specification and asked Applicants to submit a substitute specification and new sheet of claims with this Amendment. Accordingly, Applicants submit a substitute specification and a new sheet of claims herewith and respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the objection to the specification. Applicants note that the substitute specification and claims do not include the amendments made to the specification in Applicants' September 25, 2006 Amendment, and, therefore, Applicants respectfully ask the Examiner to enter the amendments from the September 25, 2006 Amendment into the substitute specification.

35 U.S.C. §§ 102(b) and 103(a) Rejections

Independent claim 1 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by Oja et al. and under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark. Applicants respectfully traverse these rejections. Claim 1 has been amended to include all of the limitations of claim 2, and claim 2 has been canceled. Thus, pursuant to the Examiner's statement in the Allowable Subject Matter section of the November 20, 2006 Office Action that claim 2 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim, *i.e.*, claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Because rejected claim 5 and objected to claim 3 depend from amended claim 1, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 3 and 5 are in condition for allowance as well.

Independent claim 6 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Clark. Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection. Claim 6 has been amended to include all the limitations of claim 7, and claim 7 has been canceled. Thus, pursuant to the Examiner's statement in the Allowable Subject Matter section of the November 20, 2006 Office Action that claim 7 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim, *i.e.*, claim 6, Applicants respectfully submit that amended claim 6 is in condition for allowance. Because rejected claims 9 and 10 and objected to claim 8 depend from amended claim 6, Applicants respectfully submit that claims 8-10 are in condition for allowance as well.

Furthermore, new independent claim 11 is in condition for allowance. The Examiner stated in the Allowable Subject Matter section of the November 20, 2006 Office Action that claim 4 would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all the limitations of the

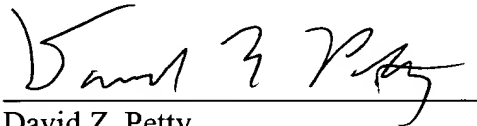
base claim, *i.e.*, claim 1. Claim 11 is claim 4 rewritten in independent form to include all the limitations of claim 1, and therefore claim 11 is in condition for allowance.

Conclusion

In view of the above, the pending claims are believed to be in condition for allowance. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicants' undersigned attorney at (312) 775-8000 if any unresolved matters remain.

The Commissioner is authorized to charge any necessary fees or credit any overpayment to the Deposit Account of McAndrews, Held & Malloy, Account No. 13-0017.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Z. Petty", is written over a horizontal line.

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